

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 L-02 M-03 A-01 PER-01 NSC-10

NSCE-00 INR-09 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /047 W
----- 023716

O P 100936 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0056

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LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR LY US

SUBJ: PNG OF ADCM MARTHINSEN; REQUEST FOR EMBASSY
TUNIS ASSISTANCE

REF: TUNIS 2578

1. APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S READINESS TO ASSIST. REGRET IF TRIPOLI 0611 GAVE IMPRESSION MARTHINSEN SEEKS DEPART LAR "SURREPTITIOUSLY". HE MERELY WISHES DEPRIVE TIA OIC SHU' AYB, WHO NORMALLY PRESENT AT AIRPORT, OF OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER EMBARRASS REPRESENTATIVE OF USG. THUS ADCM WILL BE LEAVING LIBYA BY ROAD RATHER THAN AIR; BOTH MEANS OF TRAVEL FROM LAR ARE USUAL. MOREOVER IT NOT NORMAL FOR US TO GIVE LARG NOTICE OR DETAILS OF DEPARTURE EMBASSY PERSONNEL, EVEN IN PNG OR SIMILAR CASES AS WHEN EMBASSY ORDERED TO REDUCE STAFF BY OVER HALF. MFA IS OF COURSE INFORMED EX POST FACTO OF FACT OF DEPARTURE.

2. MARTHINSEN WILL TRAVEL ALONE. MRS. MARTHINSEN AND CHILDREN WILL FOLLOW WHEN SCHOOL YEAR ENDS ON OR ABOUT MAY 25. MFA ASSURANCES TO CHARGE, OUR APPRECIATION THAT AT LEAST RESIDUAL ARAB RESPECT FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN
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REMAINS IN LIBYAN CHARACTER, AND ANTICIPATED PRESENCE AT
TIA OF NUMBER OF CD FRIENDS COMPRISE ACCEPTABLE GUARANTEE
DEPARTURE OF MARTHINSEN'S FAMILY VIA TIA WILL BE UNEVENTFUL.

3. MARTHINSEN AND FAMILY ENTERED LAR AT LIBYAN- TUNISIAN
BORDER APRIL 27 AFTER BRIEF VACATION AT JERBA. DISTANCE
BETWEEN LAR IMMIGRATIONS: CUSTOMS AND FINAL LAR CHECK
POINT DOES NOT EXCEED 50 METERS. ADDITIONAL 10 METERS
(MIGHT THIS BE " NO- MAN' S LAND" REFERRED TO IN REFTEL PARA 2?)
SEPARATES LAST LIBYAN CHECK- POINT FROM TUNISIAN CHECK
POINT. LATTER, IN TURN, IS SCANT TWENTY METERS FROM
TUNISIAN IMMIGRATION: CUSTOM BUILDING. MARTHINSEN WILL
HIMSELF CHEERFULLY CARRY LUGGAGE THESE DISTANCES IF
EMBASSY TRIPOLI DRIVER UNABLE TO ASSIST.

4. COUNTRYMAN FAMILIAR WITH ABOVE SO FAR AS IT RELATES
TO BORDER DISTANCES AND SHOULD BE ABLE CONFIRM.

5. IF EMBASSY TUNIS VEHICLE UNABLE DRIVE TO TUNISIAN
IMMIGRATIONS: CUSTOMS BUILDING, MARTHINSEN AGREEABLE
RENDEZVOUS WITH VEHICLE AT BEN GARDANE CHECK POINT
WITHIN TUNISIA AS SOON AS HE CAN BOARD TAXI, BUS, OR
OTHER LOCALLY AVAILABLE TRANSPORTATION. SEE NO REASON
WHY TUNISIAN FONOFF NEED BE NOTIFIED, THEREFORE, THOUGH
NATURALLY HOPE YOUR DRIVER CAN PROCEED TO BORDER
IMMIGRATION: CUSTOMS BUILDING ON TUNISIAN SIDE.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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